

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
WWW.ENERGY.CA.GOV

02-AFC-1C

DATE NOV 19 2009

RECD. NOV 25 2009

**NOTICE OF RECEIPT**

**PETITION TO AMEND THE ENERGY COMMISSION DECISION and
EXTEND THE START OF CONSTRUCTION DEADLINE for the
BLYTHE ENERGY PROJECT PHASE II PROJECT
(02-AFC-1C)**

On October 23, 2009, Caithness Blythe II, LLC (Caithness) filed a petition to amend the Blythe Energy Project, Phase II (BEP II). The BEP II was certified on December 14, 2005. The 520-megawatt (MW) combined-cycle project site is located within the City of Blythe, approximately five miles west of the center of the City. The BEP II site boundary is located on approximately a 76 acre site immediately adjacent to the operational Blythe Energy Project (BEP I), owned and operated by a subsidiary of FPL Energy.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATION

This petition seeks to amend the 2005 Decision for BEP II and extend the deadline for the commencement of construction.

This petition addresses the need to modify existing Conditions of Certification, as detailed in the Energy Commission Final Decision. The amended BEP II will include:

- Identification of the new point of interconnection into the proposed Southern California Edison (SCE) Keim Substation
- Replacement of the Siemens Westinghouse V84.3a turbines with Siemens SGT6-5000F turbines
- Modification of the combustion turbine and steam turbine enclosure
- Incorporation of an auxiliary boiler to allow fast start technology
- Expanding the approved cooling tower configuration by 1,020 sq. ft.
- Optimization of the General Arrangement of the plant

BEP II proposes to interconnect with the Imperial Irrigation District's Desert Southwest Transmission Project (DSWTP) on the BEP I site. The DSWTP is a double circuit 500 kV transmission line which extends from the Keim substation west of Blythe to the Devers substation north of Palm Springs in Riverside County. The DSWTP received its Record of Decision from the Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in 2007. One of the DSWTP 500 kV transmission line circuits will interconnect with SCE's planned Colorado River Substation (CRS, formerly Midpoint) approximately 8.0 miles from the Keim Station. BEP II will interconnect at Keim and deliver power to the CRS. The Keim Station is proposed as part of the SCE's plan to build the California portion of the new 500 kV Palo Verde-Devers II circuit transmission line. The approximate 8.0 miles of transmission line from Keim Station to the proposed new CRS is part of the proposed DSWTP.

In addition to proposed project modifications described in this petition, Caithness is also seeking an extension of the deadline for the commencement of construction of the BEP II, from the current deadline of December 14, 2010 to December 14, 2013. Caithness has stated that its request for a three year extension of the deadline for commencement of

construction would allow the project to more effectively compete for a Power Purchase Agreement in a time frame which is compatible for building the renewable resources proposed in the Blythe area.

ENERGY COMMISSION AMENDMENT REVIEW PROCEDURES

The purpose of the Energy Commission's review process is to assess the impacts of this proposal on environmental quality, public health and safety. The review process includes an evaluation of the consistency of the proposed changes with the Energy Commission's Decision and if the project, as modified, will remain in compliance with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (Title 20, Calif. Code of Regulations, section 1769). Energy Commission staff is currently analyzing the request and will publish an analysis in the near future. A public hearing for the purpose of approving or denying the amendment proposal will subsequently be held at a regularly scheduled Energy Commission business meeting.

This Notice of Receipt is being mailed to interested parties and property owners adjacent to the project site who may want to participate in the amendment process. If you wish to be removed from the BEP II project mailing list, please check the box on the enclosed form and return it to the address shown.

The petition is available on the Energy Commission's website at http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/blythe2/compliance/2009-10-26_Amendment.pdf. The staff analysis (when published), will also be posted on the website. If you would like to receive a hard copy or CD of the petition and/or staff's analysis, please complete the enclosed Information Request Form and return it to the address shown.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact Mary Dyas, Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 651-8891, or by fax to (916) 654-3882, or via e-mail at: mdyas@energy.state.ca.us within 14 days of the date of this notice.

For further information on how to participate in this proceeding, please contact the Energy Commission Public Adviser's Office, at (916) 654-4489, or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by e-mail at publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us. News media inquiries should be directed to the Energy Commission Media Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us.

Date: _____

11/19/09



EILEEN ALLEN, Manager
Siting and Compliance Office
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection
Division

Enclosure: Information Request Form

Mail List # 7088

INFORMATION REQUEST FORM

COMPLETE & MAIL TO: CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
COMPLIANCE UNIT
ATTN: MARY DYAS
1516 NINTH STREET, MS-2000
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

OR FAX TO: (916) 634-3882

NAME AND/OR TITLE (AS IT IS TO APPEAR ON MAIL LABEL)

ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE)

STREET ADDRESS OR P.O. BOX

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE COMMISSION DECISION TO MODIFY THE BLYTHE ENERGY PROJECT PHASE II.

PLEASE CHECK THE DOCUMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE:

- ☐ PETITION TO AMEND/ HARD COPY OR CD
- ☐ STAFF ANALYSIS
- ☐ COMMISSION ORDER

PROJECT: BLYTHE ENERGY PROJECT PHASE II

DOCKET NO: 02-AFC-1C

MAIL LIST NO: 7088

☐ PLEASE REMOVE MY NAME FROM THE BLYTHE ENERGY PROJECT PHASE II MAILING LIST #7088